

Remarks

By the present Amendment, Claims 1-3, 5-39 and 41-42 remain pending. Independent Claims 41 and 42 have been added and dependent Claims 4 and 40 have been cancelled. Claims 1, 10, 24 and 30 have been amended. Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter has been added to the present application. In view of the amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully assert that the rejections are now made moot and that the pending claims are in condition for allowance.

Applicants wish to thank Examiner Mayo for the Examiner Interview on February 21, 2006 and for agreeing to delay action on the present application until the submission of this Amendment. In accordance with the discussion that took place in the Examiner Interview, as summarized in the Interview Summary, independent Claims 1, 10, and 30 have been amended to include the limitation that the “distance between said at least one electrifiable conductor and each of said first and second return conductors is no greater than approximately 0.030 inches,” which was originally recited in Claim 4. Similarly, independent Claim 24 has been amended to include the limitation that the “distance between said at least one electrifiable conductor and said return conductor is no greater than approximately 0.030 inches.”

Additionally, new independent Claims 41 and 42 have been added to the present application. Claims 41 and 42 essentially parallel independent Claims 1 and 10, respectfully, prior to the present amendment but with the added limitation of “wherein a total thickness of the electrical wire is no more than approximately 0.050 inches.” This feature of the present invention is disclosed on at least page 21, lines 8-12 of the application.

I. Objection of the Drawings

In the Final Office Action the drawings were objected to because certain Figures lacked proper cross-hatching according to MPEP 608.02.

Applicants have provided herewith Substitute Sheets having amended Figures 1A-2C, 3G-3I, 3O and 3S with proper cross-hatching in conformity with MPEP 608.02. A set of drawing sheets showing the changes made in red is also provided herewith. Additionally, the lead lines associated with reference number 221 have been amended in Figures 3B-3C. With respect to the remaining Figures objected to by the Examiner, Applicants respectfully submit that the Figures illustrate thin film metal layers that are schematically illustrate possible configurations of the present invention. In light of the Specification, these conductive layers are designed to be very thin; therefore, they are shown as thin lines in the Figures. However, if the Examiner wishes, Applicants will have a draftsman edit the objected to Figures to show cross-hatching in all of the conductive layers.

II. Claim Objection Under 37 CFR 1.75

In the Final Office Action, Claim 40 was objected to under 37 CFR 1.75 for being substantially similar to Claim 33. In response, Claim 40 has been cancelled.

III. Claim Rejections Under 35 USC 102 and 103

In the Final Office Action, all pending claims were rejected under either 35 USC 102(b) or 103(a). In particular, Claim 4 was rejected based on the combination of Champeau (U.S. Pat. No. 5,068,632) in view of Farquhar et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,874,324). It was suggested in the Final Office Action that one of ordinary skill in the art of cables would have been motivated to modify

the microwave cable of Champeau with the thickness and configuration of the flat-ribbon cable of Farquhar because Farquhar teaches that such a configuration has high strength and low dielectric properties and since discovering an optimal value of a result effective variable involves only routine skill in the art.

In accordance with the Examiner's suggestions at the Examiner Interview, Applicants have amended the independent claims in the manner discussed above to include dimensional limitations directed to the thickness of the claimed electrical wire and are submitting herewith the Declaration of Fred Martin, one of the named inventors, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.132. The Declaration discusses the unexpected results and commercial success of the electrical wire to which the present application is directed. In particular, the Declaration of Mr. Martin points out the unexpected results achieved during the development the commercially successful electrical wire of the present invention that is both extremely thin (for concealability when mounted to the external surface of a wall) and safe for use with both 120 VAC and 240 VAC. Applicants respectfully submit that the present amendments and Declaration of Mr. Martin render Champeau and Farquhar non-analogous art and/or removes the cited motivation for their combination, thereby overcoming the rejection based on their combination.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that independent Claims 1, 10, 24, 30, 41 and 42 are allowable over the prior art of record. In addition, as a matter of law, all the claim depending from one of these independent claims is likewise allowable.

IV. Allowability of New Claims

By the present amendment, new independent Claims 41 and 42 have been added to further define the invention. In particular, Claims 41 and 42 recite substantially the same

electrical wires as Claims 1 and 10, respectively, prior to the present amendments to Claims 1 and 10. However, Claims 41 and 42 further include the limitation that the “total thickness of the electrical wire is no more than approximately 0.050 inches.” Similar to the dimensional limitation added to Claims 1 and 10 by this amendment, the overall thickness limitation distinguishes Claims 41 and 42 over the prior art of record, particularly in light of the Declaration of Mr. Martin as discussed in the Examiner Interview.

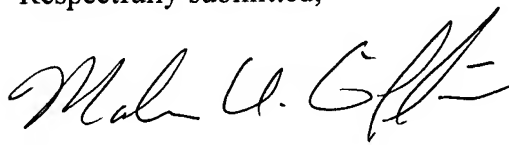
Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that new independent Claims 41 and 42 are patentable over the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

For at least the reasons set forth above, it is respectfully submitted that all pending claims in the present application are in condition for allowance. It is believed that all outstanding objections and/or rejections have been rendered moot, accommodated and/or traversed. If the Examiner is compelled to do other than allow all the pending claims, or has any comments or suggestions which will place the application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required beyond those which may be otherwise provided for in the documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a), and any fee required therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 19-5029.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Malvern U. Griffin III". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

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Reg. No. 38,899

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Attorney Docket: 77335-0098

Drawing Sheet Showing Changes Made

cross-hatching
added to
55 and 56

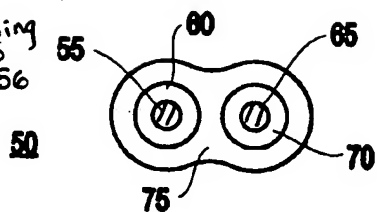
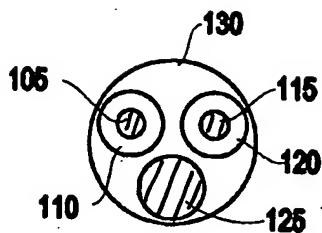


FIG. 1A
PRIOR ART



cross-hatching
added to
105, 115 and 125

FIG. 1B
PRIOR ART

cross-hatching
added to
210 and 221

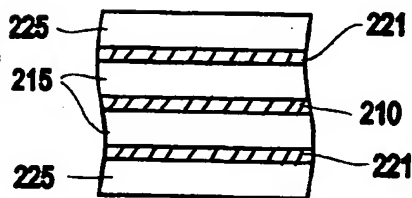


FIG. 2A

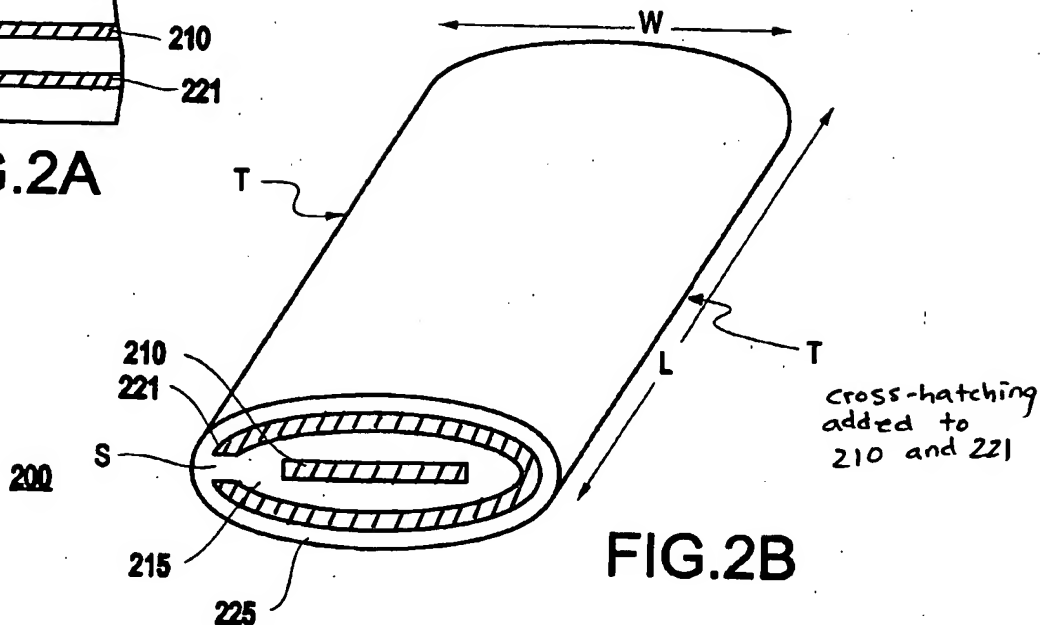
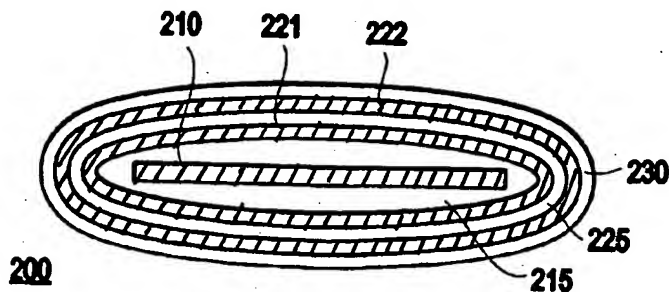


FIG. 2B

FIG. 2C



cross-hatching added to
210, 221 and 222

Drawing Sheet Showing Changes Made

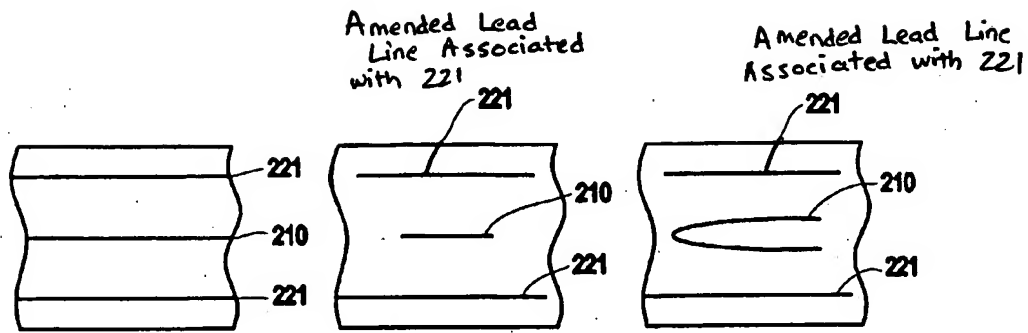


FIG. 3A

FIG. 3B

FIG. 3C

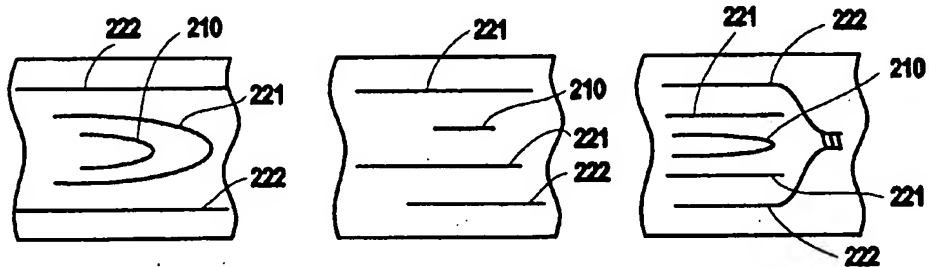


FIG. 3D

FIG. 3E

FIG. 3F

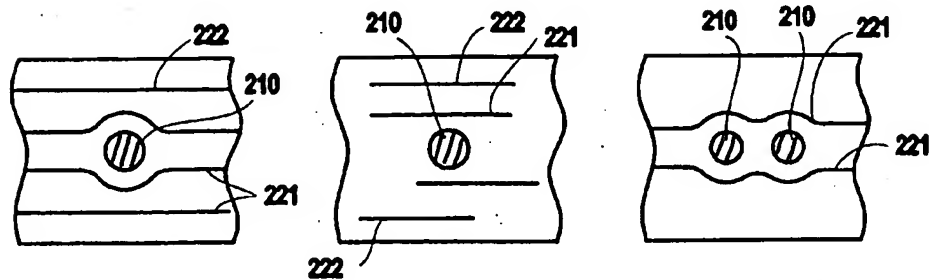


FIG. 3G

FIG. 3H

FIG. 3I

cross-hatching
added to 210

cross-hatching
added to 210

cross-hatching
added to 210

Drawing Sheet Showing Changes Made

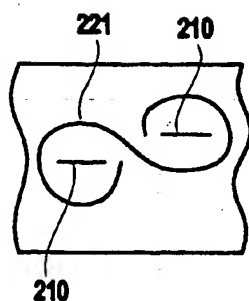


FIG. 3J

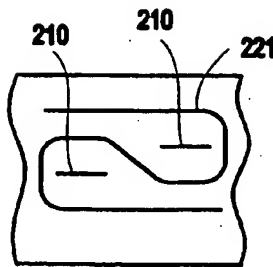


FIG. 3K

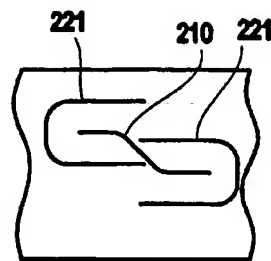


FIG. 3L

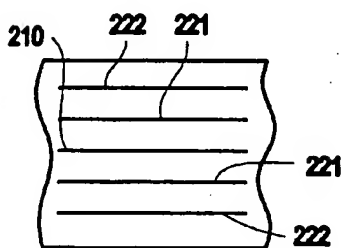


FIG. 3M

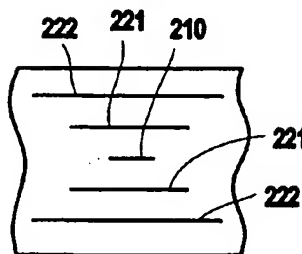


FIG. 3N

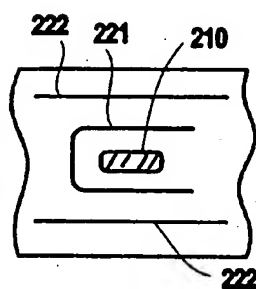


FIG. 3O

cross-hatching
added to
210

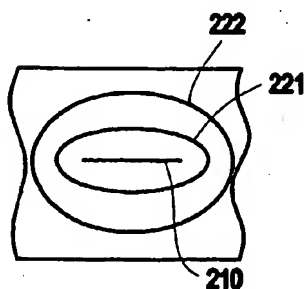


FIG. 3P

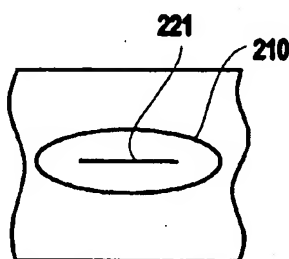


FIG. 3Q

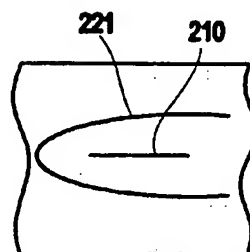


FIG. 3R

Drawing Sheet Showing Changes Made

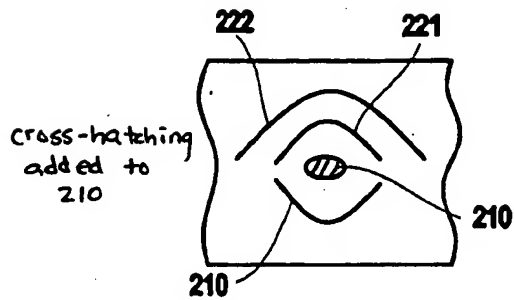


FIG. 3S

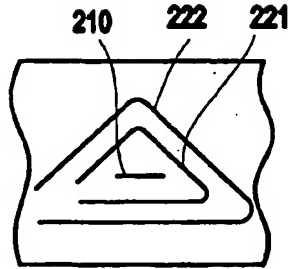


FIG. 3T

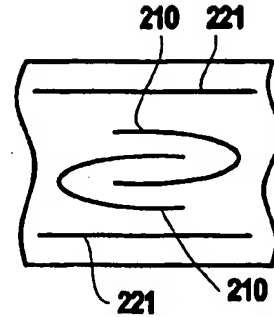


FIG. 3U

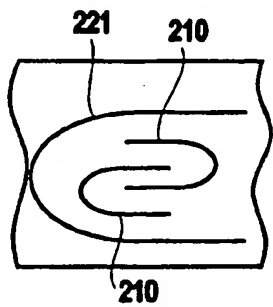


FIG. 3V

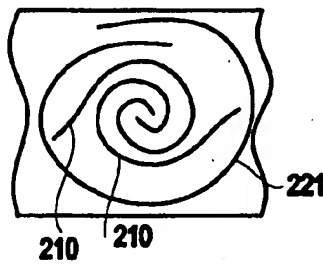


FIG. 3W